

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MBABAN 00724 112209 Z

66

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 /086 W

----- 043681

R 111535 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4778

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MBABANE 0724

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, WZ

SUBJECT: KING CALLS MEETING OF SWAZI NATION APRIL 12;

RUMORS OF CHANGE

REF: A) MBABANE 0610; B) MBABANE 0104

1. THE RUMOR MILL IN SWAZILAND, WHICH HAS LONG PREDICTED THE IMMINENT REPLACEMENT OF AILING PRIME MINISTER, PRINCE MAKHOSINI DLAMINI, AND ALSO THAT CHANGES WERE LIKELY IN SWAZILAND CONSTITUTION, IS AGAIN HYPERACTIVE IN WAKE OF KING SOBUZA'S ANNOUNCEMENT CALLING TOGETHER SWAZI NATION TOMORROW, APRIL 12. USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE INFORMS THAT PARLIAMENT HAS ALSO BEEN CALLED TO ASSEMBLE FOR SHORT SESSION IN MORNING, PRIOR TO KING'S ADDRESS IN AFTERNOON. REPORTEDLY TO BE INTRODUCED IN PARLIAMENT IS MOTION SAYING GOS FINDS CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF EXISTING CONSTITUTION UNACCEPTABLE AND RECOMMENDING CHANGES TO KING. NGWENYAMA IN AFTERNOON MAY THEN APPOINT COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES.

2. SPECULATION IS ALSO RIFE THAT TOMORROW WILL COME LONG-EXPECTED ANNOUNCEMENT OF RETIREMENT OF AILING PRIME MINISTER. LIKELY CANDIDATES FOR SUCCESSION INCLUDE MINISTER AGRICULTURE A. K. HLOPHE, AND PRINCE SIFUBA, WITH OUTSIDE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MBABAN 00724 112209 Z

POSSIBILITY OF MINISTER OF JUSTICE POLYCARP DLAMINI.
CURRENT DPM ZONKE KHUMALO, WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVELY LOBBYING
FOR PM'S JOB AND WHO SOME TIME AGO LOOKED ODDS- ON FAVORITE,
NOW SEEMS LESS LIKELY CONTENDER.

3. COMMENT: HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY SESSION TOMORROW WILL BE
FIRST MEETING AFTER DELAY OF SEVERAL MONTHS BECAUSE OF
GOVERNMENT'S DILEMMA OVER SEATING OF THOMAS NGWENYA,
OPPOSITION MP ELECTED LAST YEAR, WHOM GOS HAS TRIED TO
PROVE NOT A SWAZI CITIZEN. RECENT DECISION OF APPEALS
COURT (REF A) WHICH WENT AGAINST GOVERNMENT MAY PROVE
CATALYST IN REVISION PROCESS OF CERTAIN PORTIONS OF CONSTITUTION.
SWAZIS HAVE LONG MAINTAINED THAT PRESENT WESTMINSTER- STYLE
CONSTITUTION WAS BRITISH- IMPOSED AND ALIEN TO SWAZI TRADITION.
PARTICULARLY UNACCEPTABLE HAS BEEN CONCEPT OF OPEN,
ORGANIZED OPPOSITION WHICH, TRADITIONALISTS SAY, IS CONTRARY TO SWAZI CUSTOM OF TRIBAL CONSULTATION WHERE DISSENT
IS PERMISSIBLE, FOLLOWED BY DECISION- MAKING WHICH IS THEN
UNCHALLENGED. MCCONNELL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MBABAN00724
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MBABANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730441/aaaaihdj.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 MBABANE 0610, 73 MBABANE 0104
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971229
Subject: KING CALLS MEETING OF SWAZI NATION APRIL 12; RUMORS OF CHANGE
TAGS: PGOV, WZ
To: AF
GABORONE
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005